

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-12, 23-27 and 29-35 are pending in this application. Claims 13-22 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-12, 23, 24, 27 and 29-35 are rejected. Claims 3, 4, 25 and 26 are allowed. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-12, 23, 24, 27 and 29-35 are canceled hereby. Claims 6, 13-22 and 28 have been previously canceled.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1, 2, 8, 10-12, 23, 24, 27, 30, 32 and 33-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,252,086 (Russell et al.), Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, 8, 10-12, 23, 24, 27, 30, 32 and 33-35 without prejudice.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 7, 9, 29 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious by U.S. Patent No. 5,252,086 (Russell et al.), Applicant has canceled claims 7, 9, 29 and 31 without prejudice.

Responsive to the rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious by U.S. Patent No. 5,252,086 (Russell et al.), Applicant has canceled claim 5 without prejudice.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 3, 4, 25 and 26 are allowed, for which courtesy the Examiner is thanked. For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claims 3, 4, 25 and 26 are now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

It is further submitted that the requested amendments to the claims, submitted after the Office Action designated as Final, should be entered, in that the amendment will place all remaining claims in condition for allowance. Further, the requested amendments to the claims simplify the issues for a potential appeal by reducing the number of claims under consideration and clarifying the claimed structure.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that no combination of the cited references teaches, discloses or suggests the subject matter of the amended claims. The pending claims are

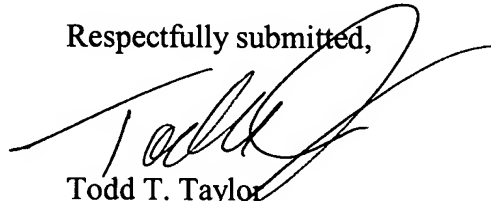
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therefore in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the claims.

In the event Applicant has overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicant hereby conditionally petitions therefor and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (260) 897-3400.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, on: April 18, 2006.

Todd T. Taylor, Reg. No. 36,945

Name of Registered Representative



Signature

April 18, 2006

Date